

to every demand made by the general government. They have now grown weary and restive under and by reason of this unequal and unjust disbursement of the public funds, and therefore properly and earnestly DEMAND such an appropriation for the improvement of their large rivers as may be necessary to secure to them a cheaper and more reliable means of transporting their vast and yearly increasing products to the marts of the world, and thereby secure to them a just reward for their industry and enterprise: therefore,

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, the Senate concurring:

That our senators and representatives in congress be requested and INSTRUCTED to take early, earnest, and persistent action by way of securing an appropriation of not less than seven million dollars for the improvement of the Missouri River between Sioux City, in the state of Iowa, and St. Charles, in the state of Missouri, and that they secure such other national legislation as may be necessary to insure the faithful and honest application and disbursement of the money so appropriated, to the end that the work may be commenced as early as possible and completed without unnecessary delay.

Second. That the memorial be printed, properly authenticated, and a copy sent by the secretary of state to each of our senators and representatives in congress; also, one to each senator and representative now in congress from the states of Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska.

Approved, February 25, 1882.

NUMBER 5.

DES MOINES RIVER LANDS.

JOINT RESOLUTION AND MEMORIAL of the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, Relating to the Des Moines River Lands.

WHEREAS, The settlers upon what is known as the lands granted to the Des Moines Navigation and Railroad Company believe that no action has ever been taken relating to these lands in which the United States and the interest of the United States have been fairly, properly, and adequately represented in court; and,

WHEREAS, The said settlers desire that the United States may be fairly and fully represented in the court; therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Iowa, the Senate concurring, That our senators and representatives in congress be earnestly requested to exert themselves to secure the prompt passage of a bill which shall in some way provide that the attorney-general of the United States shall immediately institute proceedings, or cause such proceedings to be commenced at once, by action either in equity or at law, as

may be deemed best, and appear in the name of the United States so as to remove all claims from the title of said lands, and that in such action or actions to be instituted, as aforesaid, any person or persons in the possession of or claiming title to any land or lands under the United States involved in such action or actions may, at his or her expense, unite with the United States in the prosecution of said action or actions for the purpose of forever settling the title or titles of the person or persons claiming said lands.

Approved, March 3, 1882.

NUMBER 6.

JOINT RESOLUTION AND MEMORIAL Relative to Construction of Hennepin and Rock Island Canal.

WHEREAS, The agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial interests of the northwest, and no less so those of the entire country, are largely dependent for their development upon a full enjoyment of facilities for the transportation of products and commodities; and,

WHEREAS, The two great interior water-routes of transportation in the United States are those of the Mississippi River from north to south, and of the lakes, with the Erie Canal and the Hudson River, from west to east; and,

WHEREAS, A direct all-water connection between those two great routes is indispensable to a complete service to the interests which so imperatively demand improved and cheaper routes of transportation, since without such a connection there can be no real use by the northwest of a water-route to the east, nor by the east to the northwest; and,

WHEREAS, The general assembly of Iowa did, in 1864, again in 1870, and still again in 1874, memorialize congress for the construction of a canal to connect the Mississippi River with the Illinois River, on a line running eastward from or near Rock Island; while Governors Merrill, Carpenter, and Gear have also in official communications urged that congress should undertake this greatly needed work of improvement; therefore,

Resolved, That the Senate, the House concurring, respectfully memorialize the congress of the United States to authorize, provide for, and require, by enactment of its present session, an early construction of a canal, for commercial purposes, from Hennepin, on the Illinois River, to or near Rock Island, on the Mississippi River.

Resolved, That our senators and representatives in congress be requested to use all possible and proper exertion to secure from the body in which they respectively serve the passage of a bill, at the present session, ordering the immediate beginning of the work of constructing the canal herein mentioned, and to vote liberal appropriation therefor, to the end that the said canal may be completed and opened to the commerce of the country at the earliest possible date.